

## **Code Requirements for Tents**

- 1.** A tent which covers more than 900 sq. ft., or which has a design occupant load of more than 50 people, requires a building permit and a Fire Prevention Code permit. Tents which cover 900 sq. ft. or less, do not require a building permit, provided the design occupant load is less than 50. Two or more connected tents with a common means of egress or entrance, will be considered as one tent.
- 2.** The tent roof material must have a label attached to the fabric to indicate that it has been fire retardant treated. This same label must also be attached to all tent side panels.
- 3.** At least one portable fire extinguisher with a minimum 4-A rating, or two portable fire extinguishers with a minimum 2-A rating each, shall be provided in all tents or air-supported structures.
- 4.** Gasoline, gas, charcoal or any other cooking device, or any unapproved open flame shall not be permitted inside or located with 20 feet of the tent or air supported structure, unless approved by the fire code official.
- 5.** Hay, straw, shavings or similar combustible materials shall not be located within any tent or air-supported structure containing an assembly occupancy, except the materials necessary for the daily feeding and care of animals. Sawdust and shavings utilized for a public performance or exhibit shall not be prohibited, provided the sawdust and shavings are kept damp. Combustible materials shall not be permitted under stands or seats at any time. The areas within, and adjacent to the tent or air-supported structure, shall be maintained clear of all combustible materials or vegetation that will create a fire hazard within 20 feet from the structure. All combustible trash shall be removed at least once a day from the structure during the period the structure is occupied by the public.
- 6.** All tents which have enclosing sides shall have an approved exit. Where the occupant load is more than 50 and less than 500, two approved independent exits shall be maintained. Each exit shall be designated with an approved exit sign, and emergency egress lighting.
- 7.** Any electrical wiring for lighting or other equipment within a tent, requires an electrical permit.
- 8.** Where tables, chairs, or other equipment are installed in a tent, aisles and aisle access paths must be maintained.
- 9.** All tents shall be anchored per the manufacturer's installation instructions, to resist wind and/or other loads.